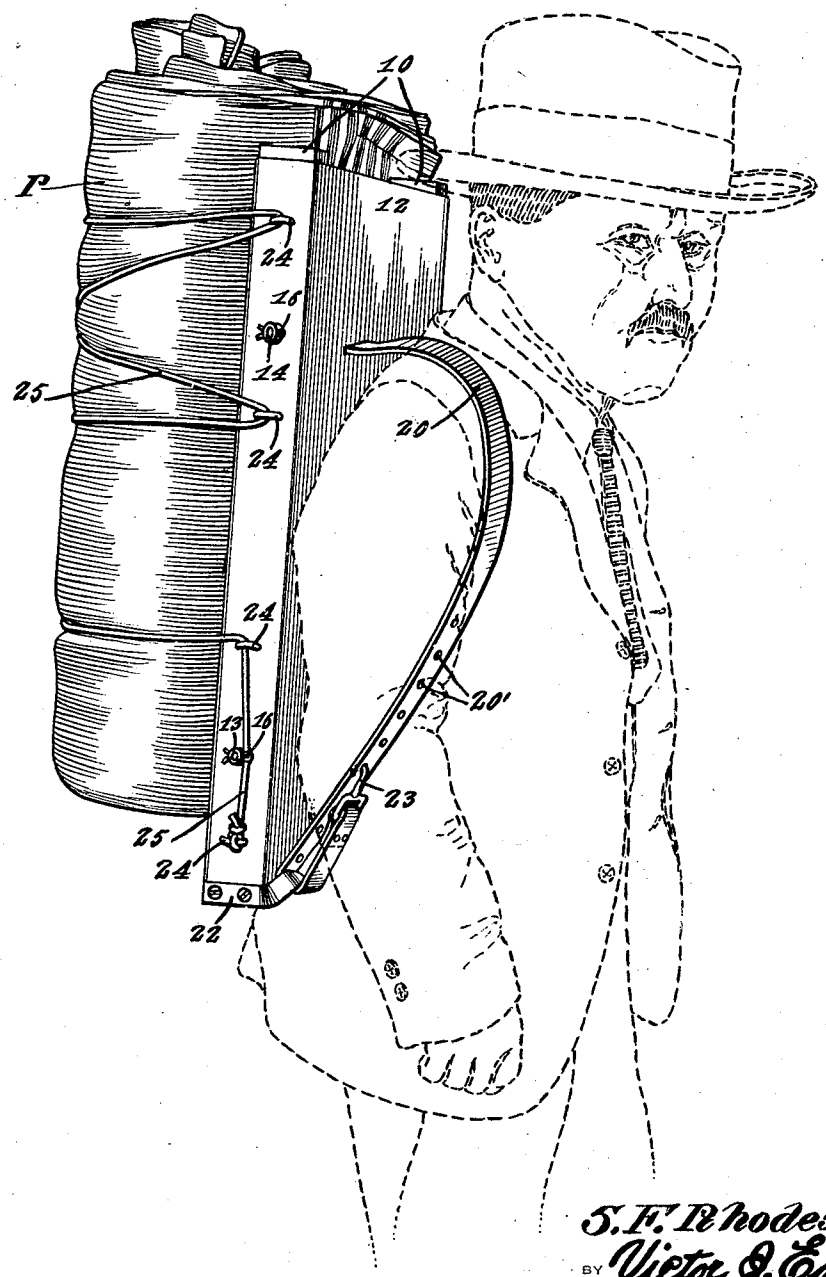
May 28, 1929. S. F. RHODES 1,714,819

PACK CARRYING DEVICE

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Fig. 1.



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Fig. 2.

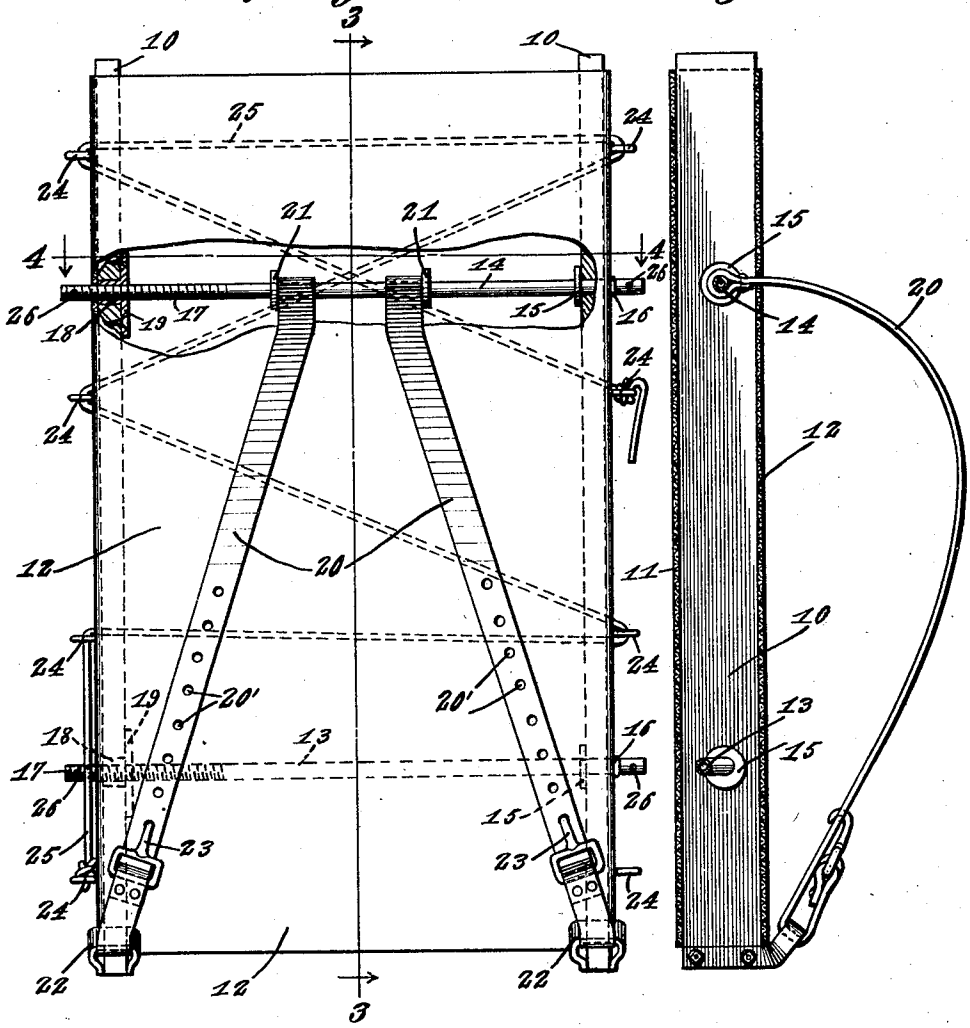
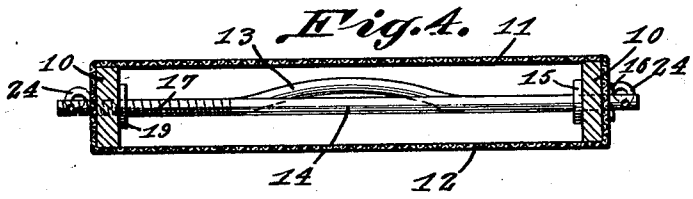


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



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Patented May 28, 1929. 1,714,819

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN F. RHODES, OF ANCHORAGE, TERRITORY OF ALASKA.

PACK-CARRYING DEVICE.

Application filed December 3, 1927. Serial No. 237,557.

This invention relates to improvements in pack saddles of the character used by strapping upon the back of a person, an object being to provide a saddle by means of which a heavy load may be carried with a maximum amount of comfort and a relatively small amount of fatigue and to which the goods or pack to be carried may be secured without danger of shifting.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a saddle which is light and strong in construction, and which will have a cushioning action upon the back of the wearer.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention further includes the following novel features and details of construction, to be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view showing the invention in use.

Figure 2 is an elevation partly broken away to more clearly illustrate the invention.

Figure 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a similar view on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawings in detail wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts, the saddle which constitutes the present invention is formed of a cylindrical member which is shaped to provide a hollow flat member to which the pack to be carried may be secured. For this purpose, the tubular member is formed of flexible material and the saddle is so constructed that this material will be resilient, or, will give under pressure. The tubular member is therefore made of a suitable fabric, or like material and receives side bars 10. These side bars are positioned so as to provide parallel walls 11 and 12 which, as stated, are flexible and are resilient due to the fact that these walls are stretched. The side bars are connected by stretcher bars 13 and 14, the opposite ends of which extend through the side bars 10. One end of each of the stretcher bars 13 and 14 is provided with stop collars 15 which abut the inner faces of the side bars. These ends of the bars 13 and 14 which project beyond the side bar are provided with openings to receive cotter pins or similar fastening devices 16, so that the stretcher bars have one of their ends swiveled within one of the side bars.

The opposite ends of the stretcher bars 13 and 14 are threaded as indicated at 17 and engage internally threaded sleeves 18 which extend through the other side bar 10, the said sleeves being provided with flanges 19 so as to hold them in place.

It will be seen that by rotating the bars 13 and 14, the bars 10 may be moved relatively either to stretch the tubular member or to permit it to collapse. When in collapsed position, the pins 16 are removed so that the bars 13 and 14 may be entirely removed from the bars 10 and the entire structure folded or rolled within the tubular member.

Extending through an opening provided in the wall 12 of the flexible member are straps 20. The inner ends of these straps are secured upon the bar 14 and are held against relative outward movement by means of collars 21. The opposite ends of these straps pass through stirrups 22 which are secured to the lower ends of the side bars 10. The straps 20 are passed through these stirrups and carry at their ends hooks 23 which may be engaged in any one of a number of openings 20′ provided in the straps. The latter may thus be adjusted to suit the particular user of the saddle.

Extending along opposite side edges of the saddle are eyes 24 through which is threaded a rope or like element 25. This rope is passed around the pack indicated at P in Figure 1 of the drawings and the latter may be tightly secured in place. Owing to the flexibility and resiliency of the wall 11 to which the pack is secured, the said pack may be pressed inward and the rope tightly secured, so that when this has been accomplished, any slack in the rope will be taken up and the pack held in a manner to prevent shifting.

As the wall 12 is also of a resilient and flexible character it will provide a cushioning effect against the back of the carrier of the saddle. A heavy load may thus be carried a considerable distance with a minimum amount of fatigue and discomfort.

For the purpose of providing convenient means for rotating the stretcher bars, the latter are provided with openings 26. These openings are adapted to receive a suitable implement, so that the bars when rotated to the left will cause the tubular member to be stretched, the threads upon the bars 13 and 14 being right hand threads. When it is desired to collapse the saddle, the bars 13 and 14 are rotated in a reverse direction where-

upon the side bars will be moved relatively inward. The cotter pins may then be removed from the bars 13 and 14 and the latter disengaged from the side bar. Rotation of the bars will then disengage the threaded ends from the other side bar so that the saddle may be compactly folded.

The invention is susceptible of various changes in its form, proportions and minor details of construction and the right is herein reserved to make such changes as properly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described the invention what is claimed is:—

1. A pack saddle comprising a frame, a flexible cover for the frame, said cover including a pack attaching portion and a portion adapted to engage the back of a person, means to adjust the frame to extend the cover or permit of collapsing the frame, means to secure the pack to one side of the saddle and means to secure the saddle upon the back of a person.

2. A pack saddle comprising a flexible tubular member, adjustable means to extend said member to provide spaced parallel flat walls, means to secure a pack to one of the walls, and means to secure the saddle to the back of a person with the other wall engaging the back.

3. A pack saddle comprising a flexible tubular member, means to extend said member to provide spaced parallel flat walls, means to disengage the extending means to permit the saddle to be collapsed, means to secure a pack to one wall of the saddle and means to secure the saddle to the back of a person with the other wall engaging the back.

4. A pack saddle comprising a flexible tubular member, a frame comprising side bars adapted to be inserted within the tubular member, stretcher bars removably engaged with the side bars, means included in such engagement whereby the stretcher bars may be rotated to extend the tubular member and provide spaced parallel side walls, or disengaged from the side walls to permit of the saddle being folded, means to secure a pack to the saddle and means to secure the saddle to the back of a person.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

STEPHEN F. RHODES.